

<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  To Commissioner For Patents Please enter the following submission and withdraw the finality of the proceeding office action or withdraw any pending appeal and reopen prosecution before the Examiner.	Applicant Number	09/773,131
	Filing Date	January 31, 2001
	First Named Inventor	MICHEL M. J. DECREE
	Group Art Unit	1762
	Examiner Name	KIRSTEN JOLLEY
	Attorney Docket Number	NL000078

This is an RCE under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application (which is made prior to: payment of issue fee; abandonment; notice of appeal to the CAFC; or commencement of civil action under 35 U.S.C. 145 or 146.)

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ **Enclosed**
- i. ☒ **Amendment (Preliminary)**
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS, PTO 1449 + 1 ref.)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (may not be a brief)

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (May not exceed 3 months; Fee required per 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(i))
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

- a. ☒ The Commissioner For Patents is hereby authorized to charge all required fees except the issue fee or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print Type)	MICHAEL E. BELK	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,357
Signature	<i>Michael E. Belk</i>	Date	8/14/03

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office tel# 703 872-9311 on the date below:

Name (Print Type)	NOEMI CHAPA
Signature	<i>Noemi Chapa</i>
Date	8/14/03